

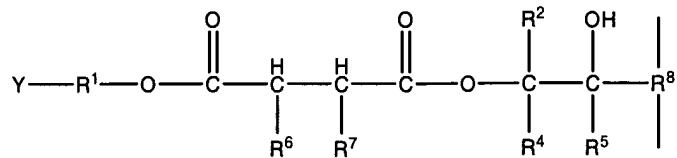
REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are now pending in the application. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to remove two of the monomer units (claim 1) or remove formation and incorporation of a species of monomer unit (claim 2). Variants of the two monomer units formerly in claim 1 are now in new claim 7. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

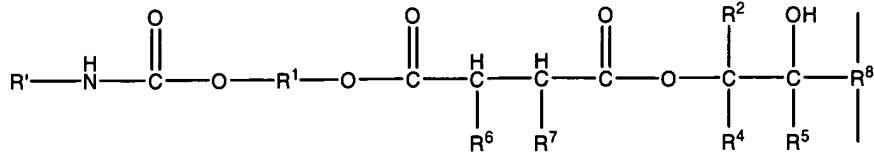
REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Just et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,704,442) (hereinafter Just). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

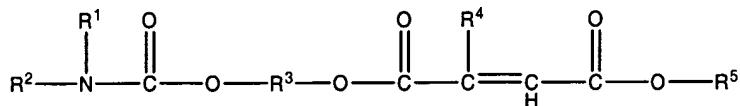
The present disclosure includes coating compositions and methods of applying coating compositions that have a vinyl polymer having one or more monomer units as described herein. Claim 1 has been amended to remove the first two monomer units of the original group, leaving the third monomer unit that has the formula (illustrated in a linear fashion):



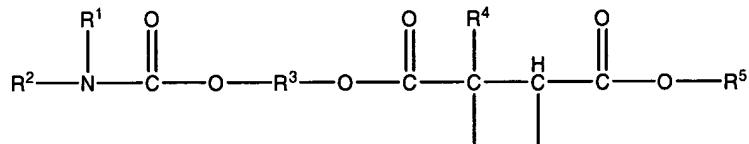
wherein Y is a carbamate or urea group. Thus, redrawing the monomer unit in embodiments where Y is a carbamate group, as disclosed in paragraph [0009], gives the following structure:



In contrast to the present disclosure, the Just reference does not teach vinyl polymers formed by the monomer embodiments illustrated above. Instead, Just teaches the following polymerizable carbamoyloxyalkyldicarboxylic acid ester (col. 1, lines 33-63):

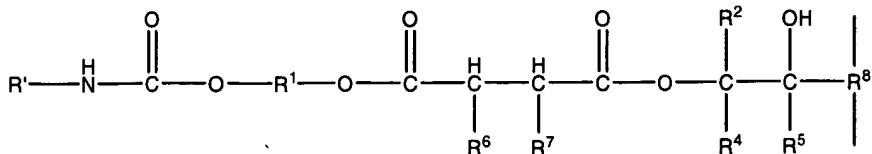


which is reacted with a copolymerizable monomer (col. 1, line 64 et seq.). Following polymerization, the unsaturation is gone, leaving the following monomer unit:

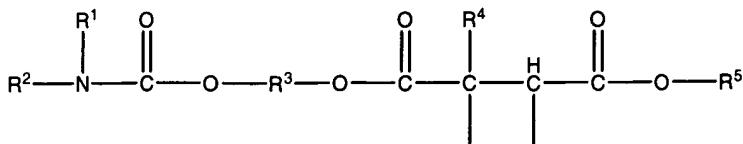


Aligning the carbamate embodiment of claim 1 of the present disclosure with the Just monomer unit results in the following:

claim 1 of present disclosure



Just monomer

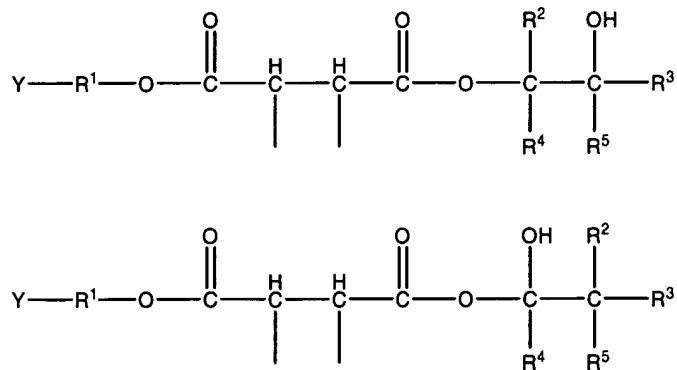


As illustrated, the monomer unit of amended claim 1 is different than the Just monomer. In particular, the bonds linking the monomer units in the subsequent polymer are in different locations. The present disclosure monomer unit is joined following polymerization at the position of the R⁸ group while the Just monomer unit is joined following polymerization at the two carbons between the carbonyl groups. Accordingly, the Just reference cannot anticipate claim 1 of the present disclosure, as the subsequent polymers are formed of different monomer units.

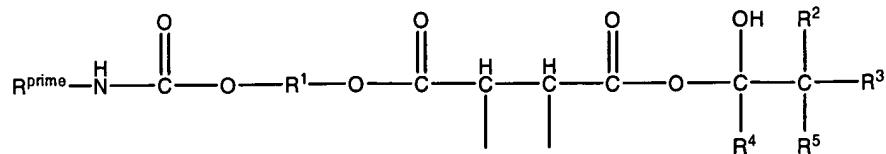
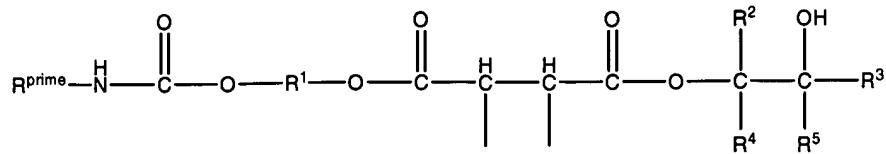
In addition, the Just reference does not anticipate the coating composition from the product by process in amended independent claim 2 and its dependents, claims 3-6. In particular, amended claim 2 discloses a coating composition comprising a carbamate or terminal urea functional vinyl polymer. The polymer is prepared by first reacting a compound having a hydroxyl group and a carbamate group, terminal urea group, or a group that can be converted to a carbamate or terminal urea group, with a cyclic carboxylic acid anhydride group to form a half-ester product with a free acid group. Next, the free acid group is reacted with an epoxide group, wherein either one of the cyclic carboxylic acid anhydride group or the epoxide group is pendant to a vinyl polymer, with the caveat that if the cyclic carboxylic acid anhydride group is pendant then the compound having a hydroxyl group has a primary carbamate group, or one of the compound having an a hydroxyl group, a compound having the cyclic carboxylic acid anhydride group, and a compound having an epoxide group has polymerizable ethylenic unsaturation, said ethylenic unsaturation being polymerized, optionally with one or more copolymerizable monomers, to form a vinyl polymer after the reaction, with the caveat that if the compound having a hydroxyl group or the compound having the

cyclic carboxylic acid anhydride group has polymerizable ethylenic unsaturation then the compound having a hydroxyl group has a primary carbamate group. Thus, the coating composition produced in claim 2 does not include polymers formed of monomers having secondary carbamate groups where the monomers are joined following polymerization at the two carbons between the carbonyl groups of the former carboxylic anhydride (i.e., claim 2 does not employ the monomer units present in the Just reference).

In reference to new claim 7, vinyl polymers are formed from the first two monomer units of former claim 1, except that the species of the R¹ group has 6 to 12 carbon atoms when Y is a secondary carbamate. Or, R¹ has 1 to 12 carbon atoms when Y is a primary carbamate. For example, new claim 7 includes the following monomer units (illustrated in a linear fashion):

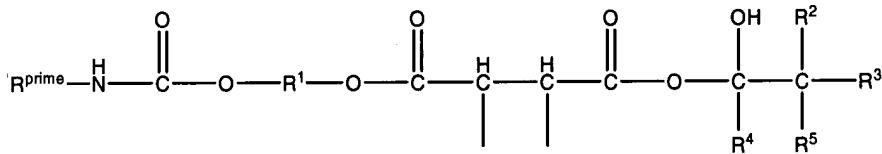
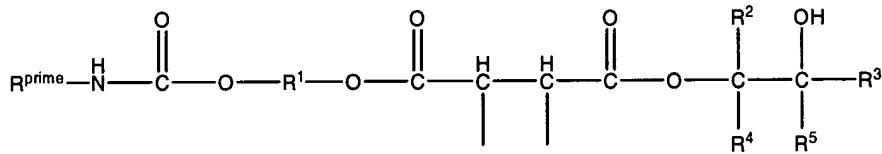


Redrawing the monomer units in embodiments where Y is a carbamate group, as disclosed in paragraph [0009], gives the following structures:

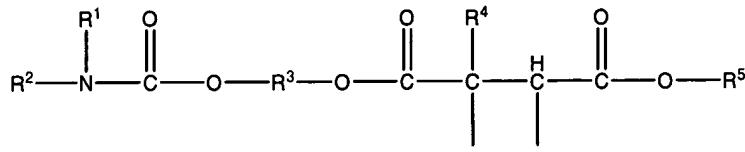


Aligning the carbamate embodiments of claim 7 of the present disclosure with the Just monomer unit results in the following:

claim 7 of present disclosure



Just monomer



R^1 of claim 7 of the present disclosure is a methylene group or alkyl group having 6-12 carbon atoms when R^{prime} is alkyl (i.e., the monomer has a secondary carbamate (Paragraphs [0009]-[0010])); whereas, R^3 in the Just monomer is a linear or branched alkylene having 2 to 5 carbon atoms. Just col. 1, lines 57-58. Or, R^1 is an alkyl group

having 1 to 12 carbon atoms when R^{prime} is H (i.e., the monomer has a primary carbamate (Paragraphs [0009]-[0010])); whereas Just discloses only secondary and tertiary carbamates. Just col. 1, lines 44-56. Consequently, the Just monomer cannot anticipate claim 7 of the present disclosure.

In sum, the preceding remarks have demonstrated that the Just reference does not anticipate amended claims 1-8. Just fails to teach a vinyl polymer formed of monomer units described in amended claim 1 and new claim 7 of the present disclosure. Furthermore, the Just reference fails to disclose the product by process found in amended claim 2 and its dependents, claims 3-6. Instead, Just describes polymer compositions using a different species of monomer; whereas, the present disclosure forms polymers from monomers linked in different locations and/or having different carbamate species than those disclosed in Just. Reconsideration of the claims and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 22, 2006

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